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FORWORD

This report on the activity of fishing vessels of 40 feet and above is based on data from local fisheries authorities (fisheries advisors, fisheries boards) collected in connection with the Budget Committee for the Fishing Industry studies on vessels in this size range in 1974, 1976 and 1978.

The report is prepared by Johan J. Hansen

Bergen, February 1980

Hallstein Rasmussen

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Canada

Table of Contents

		Page
1.	Introduction	6
2.	Results	6
	2.1 National Summary	6
	2.2 County Summaries	8
	2.2.1 Finnmark County	8
	2.2.2 Troms "	10
	2.2.3 Nordland "	12
	2.2.4 Trondelag "	14
	2.2.5 More and Romsdal "	15
	2.2.6 Sogn and Fjordane "	17
	2.2.7 Hordaland "	19
	2.2.8 Rogaland "	20
	2.2.9 Skagerrak "	21
	2.2 Vessel groups by fishery in the Budget Committee cost and earnings study for fishing vessels above 40 feet.	23

Budget Committee for the Fishing Industry. Studies on the Operation of Fishing Vessels of 40 feet and above.

1. Introduction

Every second year the Budget Committee for the Fishing Industry carries out studies on the activity of all fishing vessels of 40 feet and above listed in the Registry over Norwegian Fishing Vessels. These studies have been carried out since 1968. Uncertain conditions related to catches, landings, etc. found in the fishing industry, can lead to large changes in fishing patterns from year to year. For this reason, it is desirable to have a complete study of the fleet. The objective is to determine which vessels are operated the year round and which fisheries these vessels have participated in. "Whole year operation" is defined as 30 weeks of fishing activity or more during the year. For certain groups that have been subject to extensive catch regulations and therefore have had their operation reduced, vessels with operation periods as low as 25 weeks have been included (trawlers, purse seiners and sprat fishing vessels).

The studies have been carried out in close cooperation with the Advisory Service for the fishing industry and the local fisheries boards.

The studies were from 1974 expanded to include the period of operation of the vessels. The data collected was

very extensive. It contains information on the most important fishing gear, fish species and fishing grounds, and the duration of the fishery in weeks for all registered vessels of 40 feet or above that had carried out fishing operations during the year.

The studies form the basis for the yearly cost and earnings studies carried out by the Budget Committee.